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The Macusis call them TARARAMU, the Brazilians JUJU, the Arawaks MORA-COYASEHAA, which signifies spirit of the Mora tree (*Mora excelsa*, Benth.), the Warraus DOIH.

[To be continued.]

Mr. Cuming, some letters from whom, while at Manilla, were given in the 1st vol. of Annals, pp. 57 and 147, we are most happy to state has lately arrived in London; bringing with him, as we understand, very extensive collections of the animals and plants found in the Philippine islands. Of shells, the quantity is large; there are said to be a very great proportion of new species. He has also brought alive, and presented to the Zoological Society, a fine specimen of a new species of Gibbon, a species of Paradoxurus, a large Flying Squirrel (*Pteromys nitidus*), the Argus Pheasant, a Fire-backed Pheasant, a Hornbill, &c.

## PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

### ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

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A paper, by George Gulliver, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to the Royal Regiment of Horse Guards, entitled "Observations on the Muscular Fibres of the Œsophagus and Heart in some of the Mammalia," was read.

The author mentions the difference of opinion that exists as to the extent to which the muscular fibre of animal life invests the gullet, a discrepancy which has probably arisen from the want of a sufficient number of comparative observations on the lower animals; and states that it has been generally concluded that this fibre is confined to the upper portion of the tube, Professor Müller, Dr. Schwann, and Mr. Skey informing us that the striated muscular fasciculi are either confined to this part of it, or belong only to the muscles of the pharynx, while MM. Ficinus and Valentin have been led to assign a much more extensive range to the fibre in question. He then proceeds to give the details of his investigation of this subject, from which he concludes that the muscular fibre of animal life extended much further towards the stomach in certain brutes than in man, but that there was also a remarkable difference in this respect even among different genera of animals.

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Sept. 24, 1839.—The Honourable Sir Edward Cust in the Chair.

A letter from E. D. Dickson and H. J. Ross, Esqrs., dated Erzerum, July 18, 1839, was read. It referred to a collection which these gentlemen had forwarded for the Society's Museum. The specimens alluded to in this letter having arrived, were severally brought before the Meeting by Mr. Fraser, and the following notes which accompanied them were read :—

*Accipiter fringillarius*, Ray. Procured April 3. Male. Found in the stomach small birds. Iris bright orange; margins of eyelids yellowish; bill blue, with black tip; cere yellowish green; legs yellow; claws black. Total length 12·5 inches. Shot near the town.

*Falco subbuteo*, Linn. Procured May 22. Total length about 12 inches. Bill bluish; legs orange; claws black. The only specimen we have yet seen. Female.

*Circus pallidus*, Sykes. Procured April 4. Iris bright yellow, with yellow margin to the eyelids; bill bluish; cere greenish yellow; legs orange yellow, with black claws. Total length 17 inches. This year (1839) arrived March 24, and left April 7; last year they arrived March 8 and left May 1. They were then also much more numerous than this year, and most abundant in April.

\* *Circus rufus*, Briss. One specimen, a male, procured May 8. Found in the stomach frogs and mice. Shot close to town. Legs pale yellow. A second specimen procured May 24. Found in the stomach a Tern (*Sterna nigra*). Iris bright sulphur-yellow; legs pale dirty yellow. Common about the river: they are shy, but bold.

*Hirundo rustica*, Linn. Procured April 25. Found in the stomach insects. Iris dark brown; bill and legs black. Total length 8·5. Arrives April 20, and remains here the whole summer; very numerous all over the plain: builds under eaves; the nest is made of mud, straw, and coarse large feathers, neatly lined with fine hay, over which there is a layer of feathers; eggs four, white, speckled with brown.

*Lanius Collurio*, Linn. One specimen, a male, procured April 20. Found in the stomach Coleopterous insects. A second, a female, procured May 4: found in the stomach worms, &c. Total length 7 inches. A small number seen together in a burying-ground.

*Muscicapa grisola*, Linn. Found in the stomach insects. Very common in May, in the burying-grounds, and also in fields.

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*Muscicapa luctuosa*, Temm. Procured April 8. Found in the stomach insects. Shot in a burying-ground. No others have been seen.

*Turdus merula*, Linn. Procured March 28. Found in the stomach insects. Observed from March 28 to April 7 about burying-grounds, &c. Said to be common in winter both at Tortoom and Trebizond.

*Turdus pilaris*, Linn. Procured April 1. Found in the stomach beetles. Only one seen; on moist ground.

\**Turdus musicus*, Linn. Procured March 28. Found in the stomach Coleopterous insects. Seen from March 23 to April 19: frequents the gardens and ditches near town, and also the roofs of houses. Common. Said to be numerous at Tortoom in February.

*Petrocincla saxatilis*, Vig. Procured April 19. Found in the stomach insects. Iris brown; bill and legs dusky. Total length 8.5 inches. Found near the river, on moist ground. Another was seen April 22 in a burying-ground near the town.

*Sylvia Hippolais*, Temm. Found in the stomach small insects. There are two varieties, both of which were sent on a former occasion.

\**Curruca cinerea*, Bechst. Procured May 11. Found in the stomach insects. Total length 5.5 inches. Only two seen; one in a ditch, and the other in a burying-ground.

*Salicaria phragmitis*, Selby. Procured May 11. Found in the stomach insects. Frequent bogs and other moist localities.

*Phœnicura Tithys*, Jard. and Selb. Procured April 17. Found in the stomach small *Coleoptera*. The only specimen found. Bill and legs black.

\**Phœnicura Suecica*, Jard. and Selb. Procured March. Found in the stomach small insects. Common about rills from March 28 to April 22. Total length 5.7 inches. Subject to several varieties of plumage.

*Saxicola rubicola*, Bechst. Procured April 19. Found in the stomach small *Coleoptera*. Burying-grounds, and the vicinity of moist ditches. Common. Seen from 19th of April to the present time.

*Alda arborea*, Linn. Procured April 19. Found in the stomach insects. Shot in a burying-ground adjoining the town: only one seen.

*Alda* —? Var. Albino, of a species we sent in the first box. No other lark except the *Alda penicillata* has been seen this winter.

*Parus cæruleus*, Linn. Procured February 17. Bill black, with brownish white margins; legs and claws bluish gray. Total length 4.5 inches. Several noticed in the same places as (*Parus major*,

*Muscicapa luctuosa*, Temm. Procured April 8. Found in the stomach insects. Shot in a burying-ground. No others have been seen.

*Turdus merula*, Linn. Procured March 28. Found in the stomach insects. Observed from March 28 to April 7 about burying-grounds, &c. Said to be common in winter both at Tortoom and Trebizond.

*Turdus pilaris*, Linn. Procured April 1. Found in the stomach beetles. Only one seen; on moist ground.

\**Turdus musicus*, Linn. Procured March 28. Found in the stomach Coleopterous insects. Seen from March 23 to April 19: frequents the gardens and ditches near town, and also the roofs of houses. Common. Said to be numerous at Tortoom in February.

*Petrocincla saxatilis*, Vig. Procured April 19. Found in the stomach insects. Iris brown; bill and legs dusky. Total length 8.5 inches. Found near the river, on moist ground. Another was seen April 22 in a burying-ground near the town.

*Sylvia Hippolais*, Temm. Found in the stomach small insects. There are two varieties, both of which were sent on a former occasion.

\**Curruca cinerea*, Bechst. Procured May 11. Found in the stomach insects. Total length 5.5 inches. Only two seen; one in a ditch, and the other in a burying-ground.

*Salicaria phragmitis*, Selby. Procured May 11. Found in the stomach insects. Frequent bogs and other moist localities.

*Phœnicura Tithys*, Jard. and Selb. Procured April 17. Found in the stomach small *Coleoptera*. The only specimen found. Bill and legs black.

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\**Parus major*, Linn. Procured March 25. Bill black, with dark margins; legs and claws bluish gray. Total length, 5·5 inches. Among trees and rose-bushes in town. Noticed from January 31 to March 2.

\**Emberiza Cia*, Linn. Procured April 4. Found in the stomach very small graminaceous seeds. Total length 6·8 inches. Bill bluish; legs light brown. Observed from 3rd to 25th of April, near mill-streams and in burying-grounds. Common.

*Emberiza citrinella*, Linn. Procured March 24. Food the same as that of *Emberiza Cia*. Common upon trees and in burying-grounds. Seen from March 23 to April 23. Total length 7 inches.

*Emberiza hortulana*, Linn. Procured April 19. Found in the stomach insects and small seeds. Total length 6·3 inches. Bill light brown; legs very pale light brown. Frequents the vicinity of mill-streams. Noticed from April 19 to May 8. It is singular, that among fourteen or fifteen birds which we examined, shot at different times and places, every one had insects as well as seeds in the crop and gizzard. The female has the feathers of the breast, summit of the head, nape, and sides of the chin, marked with longitudinal dusky spots.

*Coccothraustes chloris*, Flem.

*Coccothraustes vulgaris*, Briss. Procured April 10. Found in the stomach seeds, both large and small. On a tree in town. Only two seen.

*Fringilla montifringilla*, Linn. Procured March 31. Bill yellowish, and black at the tip; legs dusky. No others have been seen.

*Fringilla Cælebs*, Linn. Procured March 26 and 27. Found in the stomach small seeds. Common in the vicinity of rills. Total length 6·3 inches. Bill light brown, or of a smoke-blue colour; legs dark brown. Arrived March 26, departed April 17.

*Pyrrhula* —? Procured Feb. 27. Found in the stomach seeds. Total length 5·7 inches. Shot on some willows at Tortoom, where they are said to be common.

\**Sturnus vulgaris*, Linn. Procured March 8. Total length 9·6 inches. Very common. Frequents the habitations of man, and feeds in fields, &c.; these birds are also the constant attendants of cattle while grazing: at sunset they return in large flocks, to roost upon trees and eaves of houses. Arrive in the beginning of March and disappear late in November. Turkish name, *Sighergih* (diminutive of ox).

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*Garrulus melanocephalus*, Bonelli. Procured February 27. Bill black ; legs light brown. Shot at Tortoom, thirty miles from Erzerroom, having a much milder climate than this. Shy.

*Pica caudata*, Ray. Procured February. Found in the stomach carrion, insects, &c. A few live in and about town : roost and build on trees : none are found at Trebizond.

\**Corvus monedula*, Linn. Found in the stomach carrion, offal, &c. Very common. Frequents town and the vicinity of man ; often seen in fields, and is very familiar : in winter is only seen about the town : towards sunset these birds assemble in large flocks to roost upon the trees about the town : begin to pair early in April, and build in the end of the same month, low down in chimneys.

*Corvus frugilegus*, Linn. Killed March 24. Begins to arrive about the end of January. Common. Frequents fields, &c., and is often seen following the plough : towards sunset these birds assemble into small flocks, and return to town to roost upon trees, on which they build.

*Corvus Cornix*, Linn. Procured January 13. Found in the stomach grain, hair, bones, offal, &c. Arrives January 1 and leaves March 28. Common about the streams near town ; when approached it sometimes erects the feathers on the crown of the head : it is by no means shy. Only seen on clear sunny days.

*Cuculus canorus*, Linn. Procured April 22 and 30. Found in the stomach insects. Iris yellow ; margin of eyelids bright sulphur-yellow ; tip of the bill and greater part of the middle black, remainder greenish ; margins of the gape and the root of the lower mandible yellow ; legs bright yellow : the plumage of both sexes alike. Noticed from April 22 to May 17. Frequents burying-grounds, fields, and the adjoining hills. Not numerous.

*Yunx torquilla*, Linn. Procured May 4. Found in the stomach very small brown ants. Shot on a tombstone. Solitary. Total length 7 inches.

*Upupa Epops*, Linn. Noticed from April 21 to September 17. Most common during summer.

*Columba *Ænas**, Linn. Food seeds. Common.

*Perdix saxatilis*, Meyer. Numerous at Tortoom. Sometimes found here in the depth of winter, in burying-grounds and in the ditches round the town : in summer it is said these birds inhabit the neighbouring mountains.

*Glareola limbata*, Rüpp. Procured May 5. Found in the stomach small crickets. Total length 11 inches. Bill black, the margins of the gape being red ; legs dusky, with black claws. Only seen

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in May, when these birds were common in small flocks about the moist turf near the river. Shy.

*Nycticorax Europæus*, Steph. Procured March 29. Shot at the river, perched on a tree. Total length 24 inches. Iris bright scarlet.

*Gallinula chloropus*, Lath. Procured April 14. Found in the stomach very small black seeds. Anterior half of the bill yellow, with a greenish tinge; the remainder, as also the plate on the forehead, bright red, inclining to scarlet; iris bright red, with two very narrow rings round the pupil, the inner one being dark yellow and the outer one black; legs yellowish green, with a patch of bright orange red above the knee-joint. Fell with a few others into the yard of a house, where it was caught alive.

*Totanus hypoleucos*, Temm. Procured April 6 in a burying-ground, near a pool of water. Another shot on the 19th, near a mill-stream.

\**Scolopax major*, Gmel. Procured April 19. Total length 11·5 inches. Common in boggy grounds.

*Charadrius minor*, Meyer. Procured in March. Found in the stomach insects. Only three seen.

*Platalea leucorodia*, Linn. Procured May 24. Found in the stomach grass and feathers. Seen at the river, where it breeds: several nests are placed near each other, about the middle of the river. They are made of reeds, bound together by weeds, which are piled up a few inches above the water's edge. Over this foundation dried reeds are placed in various directions, to form the body of the nest, which is not lined with anything, and is just large enough to allow one bird to sit, and the other to stand beside it: we found four eggs in each; they are white, spotted with brown. Turkish name, *Cashik Booroonoo* (Spoon-bill), and *Taktar Booroonoo* (Broad-bill).

*Zapornia pusilla*, Steph. Procured April 19. Bill green, with the margins of the gape red. Boggy ground near the river. Another shot May 5.

\**Anas Boschas*, Linn. Procured May 12. Very common at the river: breeds here. The ducklings seen on the 1st of August 1838; these birds arrived on the 5th of April. Early in spring a few were seen in the fields near town; they afterwards feed in wet fields near the river.

*Dafila caudacuta*, Leach. Procured April 1. Found in the stomach small seeds. Shot in a brook near the river. Total length 26 inches. Upper mandible bluish, with slate-coloured sides near its base, and black culmen; under mandible brownish black; legs slaty colour, with the webs and claws dusky.

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*Gallinula chloropus*, Lath. Procured April 14. Found in the stomach very small black seeds. Anterior half of the bill yellow, with a greenish tinge; the remainder, as also the plate on the forehead, bright red, inclining to scarlet; iris bright red, with two very narrow rings round the pupil, the inner one being dark yellow and the outer one black; legs yellowish green, with a patch of bright orange red above the knee-joint. Fell with a few others into the yard of a house, where it was caught alive.

*Totanus hypoleucos*, Temm. Procured April 6 in a burying-ground, near a pool of water. Another shot on the 19th, near a mill-stream.

\**Scolopax major*, Gmel. Procured April 19. Total length 11·5 inches. Common in boggy grounds.

*Charadrius minor*, Meyer. Procured in March. Found in the stomach insects. Only three seen.

*Platalea leucorodia*, Linn. Procured May 24. Found in the stomach grass and feathers. Seen at the river, where it breeds: several nests are placed near each other, about the middle of the river. They are made of reeds, bound together by weeds, which are piled up a few inches above the water's edge. Over this foundation dried reeds are placed in various directions, to form the body of the nest, which is not lined with anything, and is just large enough to allow one bird to sit, and the other to stand beside it: we found four eggs in each; they are white, spotted with brown. Turkish name, *Cashik Booroonoo* (Spoon-bill), and *Taktar Booroonoo* (Broad-bill).

*Zapornia pusilla*, Steph. Procured April 19. Bill green, with the margins of the gape red. Boggy ground near the river. Another shot May 5.

\**Anas Boschas*, Linn. Procured May 12. Very common at the river: breeds here. The ducklings seen on the 1st of August 1838; these birds arrived on the 5th of April. Early in spring a few were seen in the fields near town; they afterwards feed in wet fields near the river.

*Dafila caudacuta*, Leach. Procured April 1. Found in the stomach small seeds. Shot in a brook near the river. Total length 26 inches. Upper mandible bluish, with slate-coloured sides near its base, and black culmen; under mandible brownish black; legs slaty colour, with the webs and claws dusky.

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*Chaulelasmus strepera*, G. R. Gray. *Chauliodes strepera*, Sw. Procured March 28. Found in the stomach sand. In a wet field near mill-streams, close to town. Iris hazel. Drake, total length  $19\frac{5}{8}$  inches. Maxilla black; mandibula dark brown; legs yellow, with very dark brown webs and claws. Duck, total length  $18\frac{5}{8}$  inches. Bill yellow, with a very dark brown ridge along the middle of the maxilla; legs like those of the drake.

*Rhynchopsis clypeata*, Steph. Procured April 21. Crop filled with worms, caterpillars, and a number of eggs of some insect or fish; gizzard contained small seeds and gravel. Total length 18·5 inches. Feet orange, with dusky webs and claws; maxilla of a dusky greenish tinge; mandibula dirty orange brown. A few of these birds seen together at the marsh.

\**Querquedula circia*, Steph. Procured April 15. Total length 15·5 inches. Iris hazel; bill dusky; legs dusky gray; claws and webs dusky. A couple seen in a wet field near town.

\**Podiceps cristatus*, Lath. Procured May 24. Found in the stomach grass, fish, and feathers. Iris bright cochineal colour, with a narrow yellow ring round the margin of the pupil; bill greyish dusky; legs outside dusky, inside yellowish gray, marked with patches of dusky. The bill in some (especially the males) has a good deal of red. The plumage of both sexes is alike. Frequents the river.

*Podiceps rubricollis*, Lath. Procured May 24. Found in the stomach grass. At the river.

*Podiceps auritus*, Lath. Procured June 2. Found in the stomach grass, with a few insects. Iris of a very bright golden scarlet; margin of the eyelids orange; bill black; legs dusky outside, grayish inside. Inhabits the river.

*Larus argentatus*? Brunn. Procured April 12. Found in the stomach hair, clots of blood, chick peas, and a portion of a sheep's hoof. Iris hazel; margin of eyelids bright orange red; bill orange, marked with red, dusky near its tips, which have a horny appearance; legs yellowish orange, the claws dusky. Arrives March 23. At first frequents rills, at a short distance from the town, but after the melting of the snow these birds are found at the river. They are shy, and fly high.

\**Larus ridibundus*, Linn. Procured April 20. Found in the stomach water-beetles. Iris hazel; bill of a deep lake-colour, with the tip inclining to dusky; margins of the eyelids bright red; legs same colour as bill; the claws dusky. Total length 14·5 inches. These birds are very common about the river, where they breed,

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On the Crania and Dentition of Carnivora, by Mr. Waterhouse: (see p. 25 of this volume.)

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

November 15.—John Reynolds, Esq., Treasurer, in the Chair.

Donations of British plants were announced from several members. Mr. Daniel Cooper called the attention of the meeting to several varieties of British plants which he had selected from the several parcels sent in for distribution.

Mr. T. G. R. Rylands communicated notes on "*Aspidium lobatum*, var.  $\beta$ . *Lonchitidoides*." Mr. R. having long doubted the permanency of this "variety," but having had but few satisfactory opportunities of judging, came to no decision on the subject. On the 11th of March, 1839, he met with a plant which he considers goes far to prove that it is but casual, since from one root he gathered fronds belonging to both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , and of almost all the grades between; the following may serve as characters of four of the fronds, specimens of which were exhibited.

1. Fronds distinctly bipinnate (*var. a.*). 2. Frond sub-bipinnate, upper and lower primary pinnules distinct and auricled, pinnæ more or less pinnatifid. 3. Frond sub-bipinnate, *upper* primary pinnules *only* distinct, pinnæ inciso-serrate. 4. Fronds almost simply pinnate, only one or two of the upper primary pinnules distinct and scarcely auricled, and those at the bottom of the frond (*var. β*). No. 1 Mr. R. considers in all respects *lobatum verum*, and No. 4 is as far from it as he has ever seen one. He has since had the plant in cultivation, and though small (owing to the confinement of the

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